



Attorney Docket No.: 00447CD/HG

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Masahiro KAWAKAMI et al.
Serial No. : 09/974,511
Filed : October 10, 2001
For : SMELTING REDUCTION METHOD
Art Unit : 1742
Examiner : Melvyn J. Andrews

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Responsive to the Office Action mailed July 2, 2002
(Paper No. 7), the term for response to which is extended three
months by a PETITION FOR EXTENSION filed concomitantly herewith
to expire on January 2, 2003, please amend the application as
follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

24. (Twice Amended) A smelting reduction method comprising:

(a) charging a carbonaceous material and an ore into a
reacting furnace to directly contact the carbonaceous material
and the ore;

Express Mail Mailing Label
No.: EV 196 414 344 US
Date of Deposit: December 18, 2002
I hereby certify that this paper is
being deposited with the United
States Postal Service "Express Mail
Post Office to Addressee" service
under 37 CFR 1.10 with sufficient
postage on the date indicated above
and is addressed to the
Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dorothy DeFrancesco
Dorothy DeFrancesco

In the event that this Paper is late
filed, and the necessary petition
for extension of time is not filed
concurrently herewith, please
consider this as a Petition for the
requisite extension of time, and to
the extent not tendered by check
attached hereto, authorization to
charge the extension fee, or any
other fee required in connection
with this Paper to Account No.
06-1378.

RECEIVED

DEC 24 2003

1700 MAIL ROOM